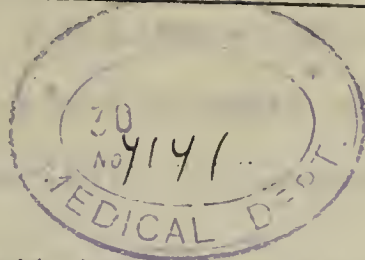


ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1918.



Looe, April 14th 1919.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my annual report upon the health and sanitary condition of the Town for the year 1918. It is not yet possible to make a full and comprehensive report for the past three years, or to estimate the effect of the War upon the town, and this report must again be only an interim one.

The births have been 37, 24 being males and 13 females. This is equivalent to a birth rate of 14.2 per 1000 per annum.

The deaths have been 41, 16 males and 25 females. This is equivalent to a death rate of 17.6 per 1000 per annum. The death rate- 17.6 exactly corresponds with that of the whole of England and Wales for the year, while the Birth rate is considerably below the average, that for England and Wales being 17.7.

There were no deaths among infants under 1 year of age. Between the ages of 70- 80 there were 8 deaths.

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The population of the town for estimating the Birth rate is taken as 2605.

The population of the town for estimating the death rate is taken at 2325.

No accurate figures are obtainable with respect to the number of men who have served in the Army and Navy, but it is believed to be about 400.

There have been several outbreaks of Epidemic disease during the year, measles occurred in the Spring, reaching its maximum in March and April.

In all 50 cases were notified, but no deaths occurred from this disease. Chicken Pox and Whooping cough were with us during the first six months of the year. Influenza appeared in the autumn and was at its worst in the months of October and November, causing a large amount of sickness and 7 deaths.





It was found necessary to close the Council Schools for 3 weeks from March 25th owing to measles. The infant School was closed during July owing to whooping cough, and the whole of the Schools were again closed for 3 weeks from October 29th on account of the Influenza epidemic.

No cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever or Typhoid were reported during the year.

For several months past the Town has been without a resident midwife and steps should be taken at once to supply this urgent need. Taking into consideration the small number of births, it is evident that there is no living to be made by a private midwife solely dependent on her profession. The Town Council has approached the Looe Nursing Association with a view of obtaining their assistance, but the latter decided that they were unable to help, as their present Nurse does not possess the necessary qualification and their financial position does not justify them in engaging a second nurse.

The cost of providing a midwife is estimated to be at least £100.

A grant towards the expenses can be obtained from the Local Government Board, and a small sum can be collected by fees charged for the nurse's services. The balance will have to be raised by subscriptions or by a rate.

With the exception of the rebuilding of one house in East Looe no new buildings have been erected during the past year. There is need for a large increase in the number of houses of all sizes, as many parts of the Town are greatly overcrowded. There would be many more visitors in the Summer could accommodation be found for them. Several families of independent means have to my knowledge been anxious to settle permanently in the Town, being charmed with the various beauties of the district, but have been unable to find any house.

The drainage and water supply have been kept in good condition but no new work has been carried out. The usual inspections have so far as possible been carried out.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*Alfred Adams*

